

REMARKS

The RCE is filed in order to request the Examiner to consider additional prior art that has recently come to the attention of the Applicant due to its citation in certain foreign patent offices. It is believed that this art is no closer than the art that has already been considered by the Examiner. The application has otherwise been placed in condition for allowance as detailed below.

Amendments

Claims 1-6, 27 and 36 have been cancelled. Claims 7-26 were previously withdrawn from consideration due to a restriction requirement. Claims 37-39 and 48 were previously cancelled.

The non-elected, withdrawn claims 7-26 have been cancelled

§112 Rejection of claims 1-6 and 27

This rejection is moot in view of the cancellation of claims 1-6 and 27.

§103(a) Rejection of claim 36

The rejection is moot in view of the cancellation of claim 36.

Conclusion

The Examiner has indicated that claims 28-35, 40-47 and 49-56 are allowed. The non-elected, withdrawn claims and the rejected claims have been cancelled, and, thus, it is respectfully submitted that this application is now in a condition for allowance. Early allowance of this application is therefore requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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